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## DIGEST

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Willmott

HB No. 319

**Abstract:** Requires public school governing authorities to provide to high school students enrolled in Health Education at least 30 minutes of age and grade appropriate instruction each school year relative to the state's safe haven relinquishments law (Ch.C. Arts. 1149-1160). Also provides guidelines for such instruction.

Proposed law requires public school governing authorities to provide to high school students enrolled in Health Education at least 30 minutes of age and grade appropriate classroom instruction each school year relative to the state's safe haven relinquishments law (which provides a means by which any parent may relinquish the care of an infant who is not more than 30 days old to the state in safety and anonymity and without fear of prosecution).

Specifies that such instruction shall include but need not be limited to providing students with the following information:

- (1) An explanation that relinquishment of an infant means to give over possession or control of the infant who is not more than 30 days old to other specified persons as provided by law with the settled intent to forego all parental responsibilities.
- (2) The process to be followed by a parent in making a relinquishment.
- (3) The general locations where an infant may be left in the care of certain others.
- (4) The toll-free number established by the state Dept. of Social Services to direct individuals to designated emergency care facilities.
- (5) The available options if a parent is unable to travel to a designated emergency care facility.
- (6) The process by which a relinquishing parent may reclaim parental rights to the infant and the timelines established for taking this action.

Effective July 1, 2009.

(Adds R.S. 17:81(Q) and 3996(B)(21))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Requires such instruction to be provided to high school students enrolled in Health Education instead of students enrolled in grades 10 and 12.